(e) Replacement of oil fault prone cables.

(f) Use of insulated dropwire with proper accessories.

(g) Reduction, of oyethewt spe*n* in local loop.

3. *COMPUTERISAATION OF THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN TAKEN UP*

(a) Fault Repair Service.

(,b) Comprehensive Financial Managemeiu System including commercial and billing-activities.

4. OPENING OF ADDITIONAL COM PUTERWED VOSTOMBK SERVICE CENTRES/QUICK COST1MBR SERVICE CENTRES.

5. IN*CREASED ACCESS TELEPHONES BY OPMMNG-*.

(a) Additional Public Telephones local and STD calls.

(b) Telecom ceatnes.

r. *IMPROVED CUSTOMER INTERFACE*

(a) Contrction of telephone adnliat

(b) Conduction of *Open* House Ses sions. . .

(e) Decentralization of several con-mercial activities to Divisional Custo ruer Service Centres.

(d) Easy accessicility of field officers general public.

Foreign Technology in the Comnuraicar tion Network

369. DR. NAUNIHAU SINGH! Will the MINISTER of COMMUNICATION 'be' pleased to state:

la) whether Government are aware that there is a public apprehension over the plethora of foreign technologies that would be inducted in the existing communication network;

(b) whether Govemment are also aware of the Seeling of the DOT officials that the new systems had been husriedly picked up without considering that they could pose major installation problems; and

(c) if so, what steps Government intend to, take to cope up with such a serious; situation to occur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRl SUKH RAM): (a*)* No, Sir;

(b) No written communicatkm in this regard has been received. However, no installation problem is envisaged.

(c) Does not arise in view of lb) above.

Improvement of Telephone Services

370. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a), whether (her is a need to improve telephone services in the country in general and in Orissa in particular;

(b) if so, the steps taken to identy the areas where improvement is vary urgently required; and

(c) the details of steps taken to imple ment the plan drawn up for improve-meat of'telephone services?

THE MINISTER OF STATTE OP THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a), and (b) Improyment of telephone services is, a continuous process. Various measures are regularly taken by department for improving the quality of service* as detailed below:—

(i) Moderni'tatkm of the Switching network.

(ii) Computerisation *at* vraioua service*.

(iii) Upgradation of external plant

(IV) Monitoring the performance at the senior management levels.

(c) The details if achievement* during the year 1994-95 for improvement of services in Orissa are as under:—

(i) Already 99.04 per cent of exchanges in Orissa are Electronic ex-
changes and 8 electromechanical exchanges have been replaced by electro-
_nic exchanges during the year.

(ii) Computerisation in respeet of 3 Fault Repair Services and 3 Telecom. Revenue Billing have been done during the year.

(iii) Besides the above 6700 old type of telephone instruments, 13 KM of old Under Ground Cable and 735 KM of old and worn-out Drop-wire have been replaced with new ones during the year to improve the quality of services in Orissa.

Contract for Celular phones to Bharti Cellular

371 SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govrnment have been the reports published in the Statesman on the 11th and 12th February, 1995 about the award of contract for cellular phones to Bharti Cellular, a firm owned by Mittals; and

'(b) if so, the reaction of Government there to and what is the correct position of the matter, as reported in the Press?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir-

-(b) The allegations made in the reports are not correct. The criteria laid down for evaluation was examined In detail by the Hon'ble High Court *of* the Delhi and the Supreme Court on the basis of petitions made by some of the unsuccessful bidders-The Hon'ble Courts had upheld the criteria for evaluation and selection-Orders given by the Courts were duly Implemented while awarding' the contract.

Mistakes in Telephone Directories of Nagpur and Lucknow

372- SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR-SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR

Will the Ministes of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are hundreds, of mistakes in the recently published telephone directories of Nagpur and Lucknow;

(b) if so, who is responsible for these mistakes;

(c) whether it is a fact that the telephone numbers of the Local Telephone department's staff and their names have also not been up-dated;

(d) what penalty is being imposed on the printer; and

<e) what action is being taken by Government to see that the directories are properly printed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNI-CSTO3NS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e) the information is being collected' and will be laid on the Table of the House.

मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में ग्राम पंचायतों को टेलीफोन सुविधायें

373. श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में इस समय जिलेवार कितनी ग्राम पंचायतों में टेलीफोन सुविधा उपलब्ध है और कितनी ग्राम पंचायतों में यह सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है; और

(ख) शेष ग्राम पंचायतों में यह सुविधा कब तक उपलब्ध कराए जाने की संभावना है ?